



## ALMS Orientation

Office of the Project Manager, Distributed Learning System

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## Purpose

### ➤ Introduce the Army Learning Management System (ALMS) and provide:

- An overview of ALMS capabilities, functions and system processes.
- An understanding of how ALMS will impact the training community.

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Module I – ALMS Overview 2

The purpose of this overview is to introduce you to the Army Learning Management System.

This training will provide you an overview of ALMS capabilities, functions, and business processes and an understanding of how the ALMS will impact the Training Community.





## Training Course Structure

### ➔ Common Core Module

- TRADOC Orientation
- **ALMS Orientation**
- ALMS System Processes
- Roles and Domains
- Login & Personalize Homepage

### ➔ Course Manager Modules

### ➔ Class Manager/Scheduler Modules

### ➔ Faculty Modules

### ➔ Unit Training Modules

### ➔ Resource Manager Modules

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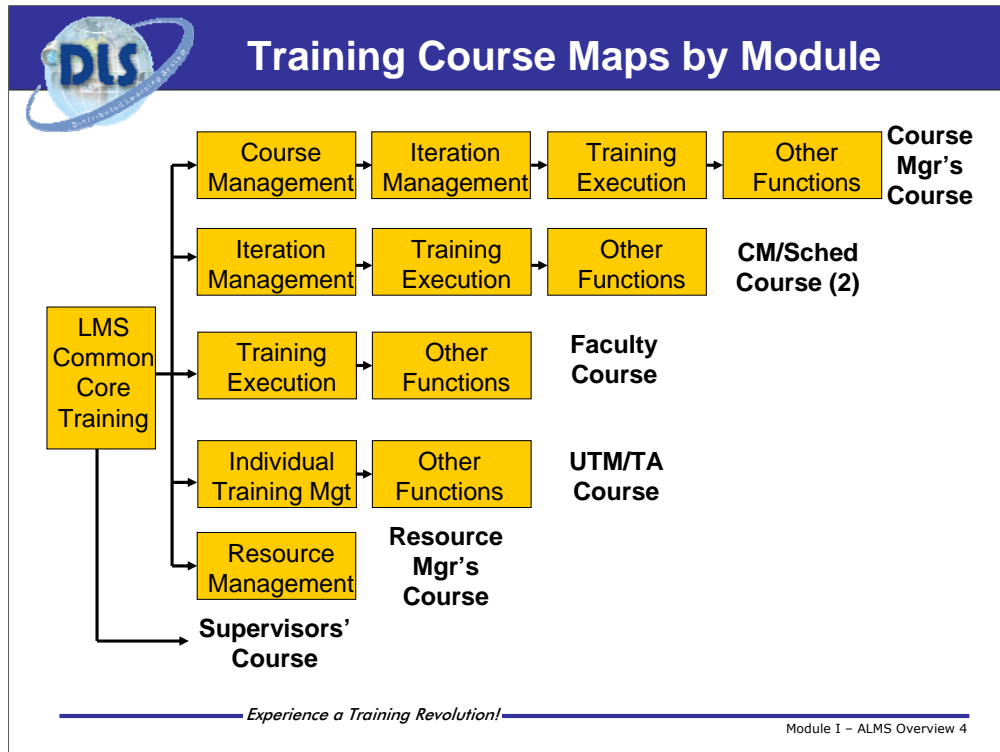
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Perhaps without realizing it, you are already taking the first Module of LMS training- Common Core. It has four Lessons and you have already had the first, the TRADOC Orientation. ALMS Training is divided into several training modules, each with its own Lessons. We are currently in the second Lesson of the 1<sup>st</sup> Module, Common Core [high-lighted in red].

As we proceed with the training, we will break this large class out into smaller, Role-based Classes. Depending on your Role, you will take those Modules that pertain to you. Some Roles will include Modules designed for other Roles. For example, Course Managers will be expected to take Class Manager and Instructor Modules. When we are done with your training, you will get ‘credit’ in the ALMS for the Course that corresponds to your Role. We’ll see how that works from the inside as the training proceeds.

At the end of this morning’s Common Core session, we will post the day and time we expect you back for your Role-Based training. So, be sure to get that before you leave this morning.





Here's another view of what I was just describing. Everyone takes the common Core training, even supervisors. For individuals in Management who do not otherwise have Roles assigned in the ALMS, this Common Core Module is all you will need. Individuals who have Roles assigned in the system will go on to take follow-on modules, based upon their Role.

You can see that will are actually training seven separate but sometimes overlapping Courses here this week. Different Roles have different tracks to follow, resulting in a complete Course, based on your role. Depending on your Role, you will follow and eventually get credit for one of these Courses.





## Agenda for the ALMS Orientation

- ➔ **Army LMS**
- ➔ **Army Intent for ALMS**
- ➔ **ALMS Scope**
- ➔ **ALMS Benefits**
- ➔ **ALMS Functionality**
- ➔ **Training Roles in ALMS**
- ➔ **System Design**

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This is the agenda we'll follow.

The information presented will come at you in a fire hose affect method. It's not intended to make professionals of you but to provide you an understanding of the ALMS.





## The ALMS

➤ **Is a suite of COTS servers and software applications that automate management functions for Army individual training.**

➤ **Provides:**

- Web based applications hosted on equipment situated at the Enterprise Management Center in Ft. Eustis.
- Hardware, software, and services for automated student administration, management, and scheduling.
- Automated courseware distribution and storage.
- A student and instructor collaborative capability.
- User access using internet browsers from computers located in the Digital Training Facilities, or in homes or offices.

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The Army LMS is a compilation of Commercial Off the Shelf (COTS), server and software applications that have been modified for Army use.

TRADOC and DLS developed the ALMS using the simplified acquisition process authorized by the Clinger-Cohen Act of 1996. The Clinger-Cohen Act authorizes the use of simplified acquisition procedures for the acquisition of commercial items valued at not greater than \$5 million including options, when the contracting officer reasonably expects that responses to such solicitation will include only commercial items.





## Army Intent

**The Army Learning Management System (ALMS) is the tool that the Army will use to manage individual training.**

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The intent of the Army LMS is:

To provide a standardized automated capability to document and track individual soldier training.





## Scope of the ALMS

- ➔ **Deliver all approved Army electronic training products.**
- ➔ **Maintain detailed records of individual training for all Army personnel.**
- ➔ **Manage resident and non-resident training.**
- ➔ **Manage execution of instructor-led and Interactive Multimedia Instruction (IMI) courses.**

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This is what the Army LMS is designed to do.

The most significant function of the LMS is the ability to maintain detailed records of individual training for all Army personnel.





## ALMS Benefits

- ➔ **The ALMS' automated approach to training management will assist the Army to streamline, consolidate, and standardize the Army's training processes.**
- ➔ **When deployed and fully operational, the ALMS will facilitate the management of students' training activities from completion of Initial Entry Training, and continue throughout his/her service.**

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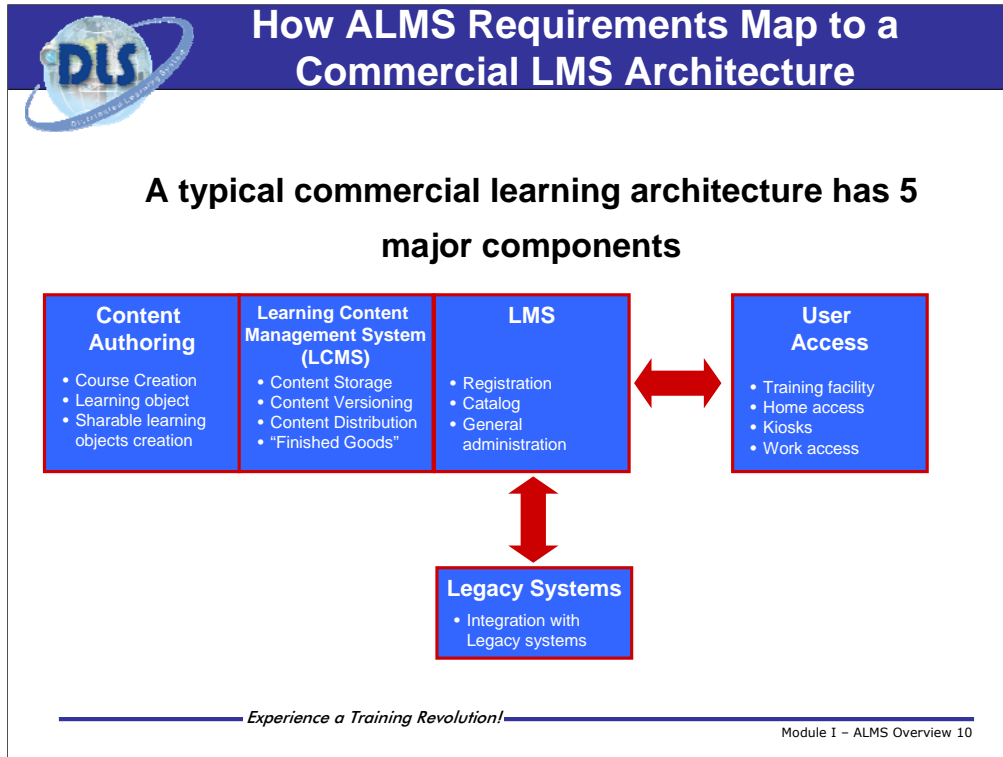
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One of the benefits the Army will derive from the ALMS is:

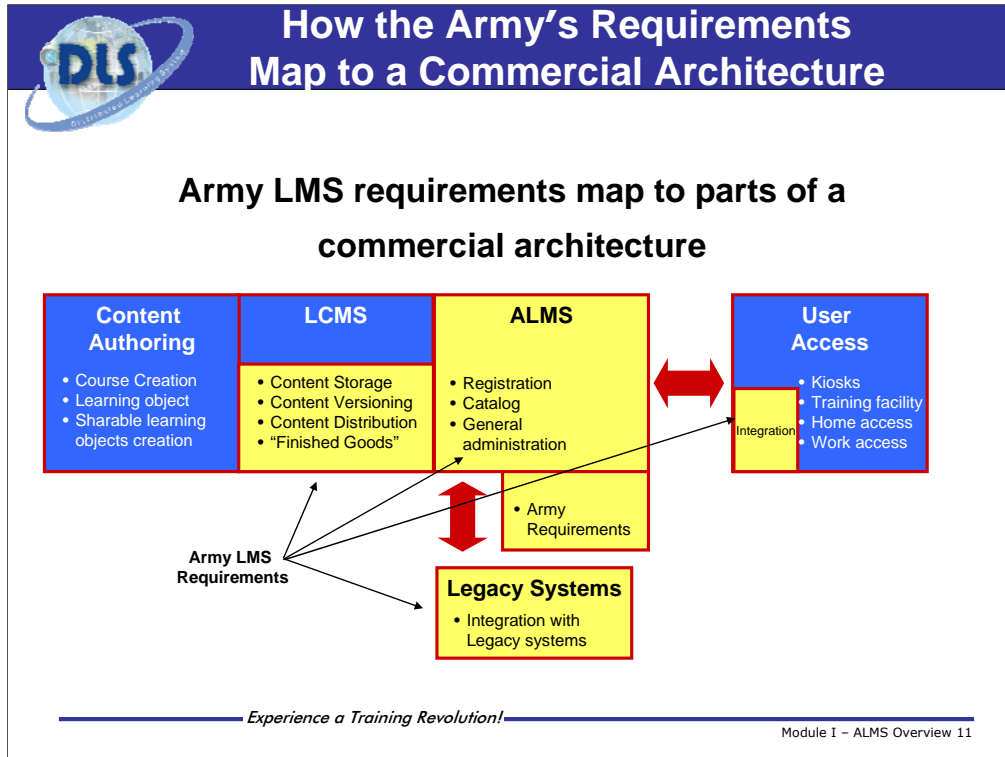
The early identification of necessary skills a soldier needs between assignments (what the soldier needs, to be brought up to speed to perform at current assignment





A typical commercial Learning Architecture has five major components as shown here.





The Army LMS functions were built within TRADOC requirements and have been incorporated into the commercial architecture as indicated in yellow.





## ALMS Functionality

### ➔ Course Catalog

- Provide Course Catalog
- Maintain Course Catalog Content
- Provide Course Catalog Search Capability
- Provide MOS/Career Path

### ➔ Product Catalog

- Provide and Maintain Product Catalog
- Provide Product Catalog Contents
- Provide Product Catalog Search Capability

### ➔ Course Scheduling (ATRRS)

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These functions provide the capability to search available courses and products on a variety of criteria, including name, MOS, skill level, and location.

It provides course descriptions, availability, and schedule information as well as automated links to registration functions.

The catalog function also provides each student with their current learning status compared to requirements for their specialty and grade level.

This includes training shortfalls and knowledge gaps based on requirements, and that student's training history.





## ALMS Functionality

### ➔ Registration

- Process Registration Requests
- Provide Training Approval
- Process Eligibility Requirements
- Create Learner Reservations
- Maintain Learner Reservations
- Manage Wait List

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The registration functions enable the student or proxy to register for a course or individual training product.

The system initiates the approval process and performs eligibility and prerequisite checks.

If maximum enrollment limits for a course are exceeded, the system will establish and manage waitlists.





## ALMS Functionality

### ➔ Resource and Event Scheduling

- Schedule Events and Resources
- Process Reservations
- Create, Preview and Distribute Schedule
- Support Schedule Modifications
- Support Unscheduled Learners
- Support Unit Training (Block Scheduling)

### ➔ Product Distribution

- Determine Product Requirements
- Distribute Product to the Learner
- Validate Recipient Address

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Schedule functions allow for the assignment of students to class sections; the short-range (less than one year) scheduling of instructors, classrooms, equipment and materials; the production and distribution of schedules; and the processing of schedule changes and unscheduled students.





## ALMS Functionality

### ➔ Training Delivery

- Training Delivery [General]
- Enroll a Learner
- Deliver Instruction, Including Quota-Managed Courses
- Deliver Instruction, Including E-Classrooms and Independent Study
- Deliver Instruction [Administration]
- Monitor Learner Progress
- Conduct Post Instruction Processing

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These functions provide for the enrollment of students; delivery and presentation of electronic training media; monitoring of student progress and post-instruction processing, including the posting of grades and generation of completion certificates. These functions also include the ability to manually enter attendance and grade data for instructor-delivered courses.





## ALMS Functionality

### ➔ Testing

- Provide Learner Testing and Evaluation
- Provide Test Guidance
- Administer Tests
- Grade Tests
- Provide Test Feedback
- Maintenance of Detailed Test Data for Analysis

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Testing includes:

- The provision of test guidance
- Administration of the tests
- Grading of tests
- Dissemination of test feedback and notifications
- Recording of test grades
- Maintenance of detailed test data for later analysis.





## ALMS Functionality

### ➔ Collaboration

- Provide Collaboration [Administration]
- Asynchronous Collaboration (Threaded Discussion)
- Synchronous Collaboration (Chat)
- Centra 7 (Proposed)

### ➔ Evaluation

- Evaluate Training
- Administer Learner Critique
- Administer Learner Survey
- Enter or Modify Evaluation, Critique and Survey
- Create Learner Review

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The Collaboration function includes the setup and monitoring of chat and threaded discussion.





## ALMS Functionality

### ➔ Training Management

- Perform Courseware Interoperability Testing
- Maintain Contact Information
- Support Generation of Training Products and Materials
- Provide Training Reports
- Maintain Education/Training Products and Material Inventory
- Maintain Courseware Assets
- Support DA Resourcing Requirements
- Manage Training Facilities Information

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The functions of Training Management in the ALMS are near endless.

Listed here are critical TRADOC functionality requirements.

**While staying In Accordance with TRADOC guidance and requirements, what you see in the ALMS depends on how you want the system to behave.**





## ALMS Roles

The majority of Army Training Roles will provide input to and/or obtain information from the LMS including the following roles:

- |                        |                         |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| ➡ Instructor           | ➡ Quota Manager         |
| ➡ Assistant Instructor | ➡ Learner               |
| ➡ Class Manager        | ➡ Scheduler             |
| ➡ Classroom Manager    | ➡ Subject Matter Expert |
| ➡ Counselor            | ➡ System Administrator  |
| ➡ Course Manager       | ➡ Training Approver     |
| ➡ DTF Manager          | ➡ Training Developer    |
| ➡ Facilitator          | ➡ Facility Manager      |
| ➡ Product Distributor  | ➡ Unit Training Manager |

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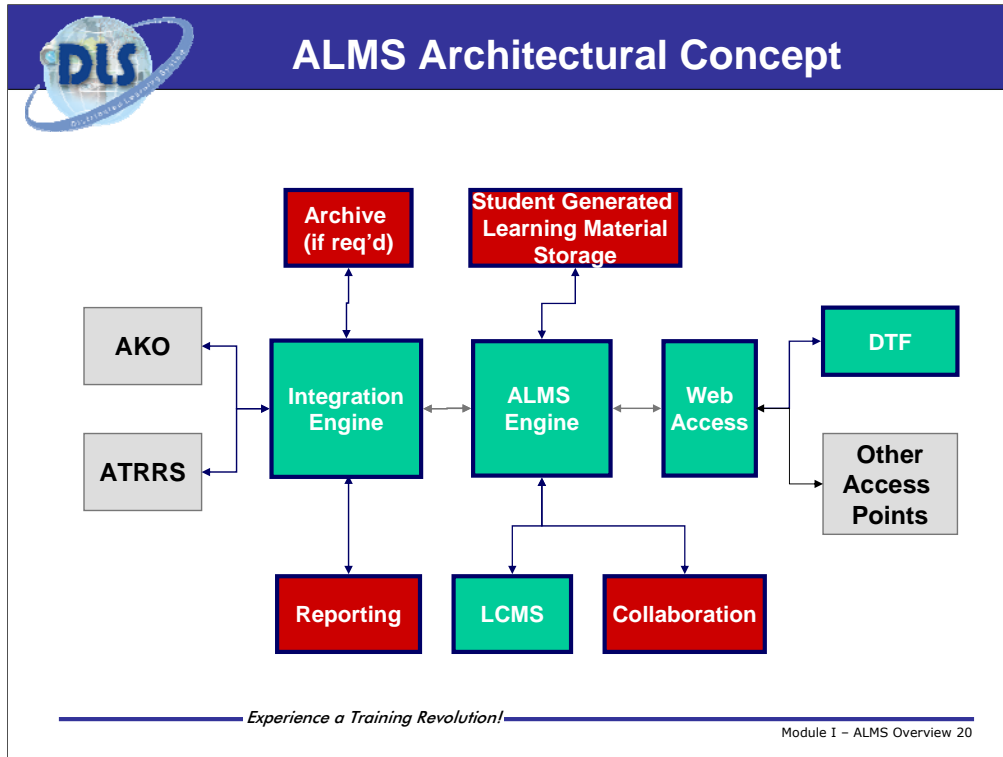
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Teaching point –

The ALMS is not something that sits on just a few peoples' desk

It impacts most all aspects of Army individual training and involves almost all people who support that effort.





This slide shows that the integration engine communicates with ATRRS and AKO and can archive and generate reports which are sent to the ALMS engine. The ALMS engine receives student generated learning material for storage. The ALMS engine also communicates with the LCMS and provides collaboration. The ALMS engine provides access through the Web from DTFs and other locations.





## ALMS Major Components

### ➔ The ALMS Engine

- Provides the basic functional software application

### ➔ Integration Engine

- Enables system interfaces with external automated systems supporting DLS

### ➔ Learning Content Management Sub-System (LCMS)

- Stores and distributes training content on demand

### ➔ Web Interface Sub-System

- Provides user access to DLS resources using a standard workstation browser

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These are the major components of the ALMS.

The most attractive is articulated in the forth bullet.

**“Training is capable of being delivered anytime/anywhere”.**





## Architecture Components

### Vendor List

Function	Vendor
✓ ALMS Engine	Saba
✓ Collaboration	Saba
✓ Reporting	Crystal Reports
✓ Integration Engine	Vitria
✓ LCMS / Content Caching	Cisco CDN

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Listed here are the vendors that support the various functions in the ALMS.





## Content Delivery Network Technology

- ➔ **Prepositions content for delivery from Campus Area Network (CAN)**
- ➔ **One device per Army site**
- ➔ **Storage and web services**
- ➔ **Same technology is used by CNN, The Weather Channel (TWC), Wall Street Journal**
- ➔ **CISCO product**
- ➔ **Centrally managed by ALMS**

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The ALMS prepositions scheduled learning offerings to locations nearest the learner during off peak hours to inhibit bandwidth congestion.









## ALMS Orientation summary

### What We've Learned...

- ➔ About the Army LMS
- ➔ Army Intent for ALMS
- ➔ ALMS Scope
- ➔ ALMS Benefits
- ➔ ALMS Functionality
- ➔ Training Roles in ALMS
- ➔ System Design

## Questions?

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Here's what we've learned.

What are your questions pertaining to the LMS?